

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
May 28, 2013

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2013 meeting as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, objected to the proposed reduction in permitting fees for the Storrs Center project and asked the Council not to approve the proposal.

Art Smith, Mulberry Road, requested more information on how and when the Town took over the management of the sewer pumping station near the post office.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report Town Manager Matt Hart reviewed two distributed documents:

- A legal opinion from bond counsel outlining the application of the lapse provisions of the Town Charter and the FY 2010/11 Open Space, Municipal and Passive or Active Recreational Use Land/Easement Acquisition and Capital Maintenance Program. According to counsel an expenditure or encumbrance issued against the appropriation would prevent the appropriation from lapsing.
- A proposed agreement between the Town and Regional School District #19 for Parking Lot Services. This item will be discussed later in the agenda.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

In addition to those organizations already recognized, Mr. Paulhus thanked the State Police for their traffic control efforts on Memorial Day and Ms. Moran extended thanks to the music directors, students and parents who participated.

Mayor Paterson thanked Sgt. Cournoyer and the Senior Center for coordinating and hosting the eight classes of the Police Academy which offered information and suggestions for seniors.

Mr. Kochenburger congratulated the two E.O. Smith graduating seniors who have been accepted to military academies, Lucas Miniutti to West Point and Austin Scigliano to the US Naval Academy. Mr. Kochenburger noted it is a tribute to both the school and the community.

Ms. Keane expressed disappointment with the small turnout at the Annual Town Meeting for Budget Consideration and with the Board of Education slides regarding the budget. Ms. Keane noted these slides failed to note that certain programs have been purposely moved out of the budget, partly in response to the MBR, and that a large amount was put into technology because the Town hasn't been including it in the other budget.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

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The Town Manager provided an update on the construction of the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center and highlighted some of the amenities which will be available in the facility. The history of the Town's involvement in the construction of a sewage pumping station as part of the village street project was explained. Director of Public Works Lon Hultgren stated that user fees will fund the operation of the station and that the part of the construction not covered by grants will be assessed to the users. Staff is in the process of formulating a proposed agreement which meets the needs of both UConn and the Town. This proposed agreement will be brought to the Council for consideration.

2. UConn Landfill, Long-Term Monitoring Program

For informational purposes a summary of May 2013 Long-Term Monitoring Plan was included for Council review. Robert Miller, Eastern Highlands Health District Director found the results to be consistent with previous reports and do not indicate an imminent risk to public health.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

3. Building Permit Fee Fixing Agreement between the Town of Mansfield, Leyland Storrs, LLC and EDR Storrs, LLC

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to authorize the Town Manager to execute the attached Building Permit Fee Fixing Agreement between the Town of Mansfield, Leyland Storrs, LLC, and EDR Storrs, LLC.

The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Freudmann who voted in opposition.

4. Agreement between the Town of Mansfield and Regional School District 19 for Parking Lot Services

Council members requested clarification of Section H and agreed to add the word "annually" following "...\$17,100" in Section E of the proposed agreement.

Staff will review these issues and the proposed agreement will be added to a future agenda.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

No comments offered.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Ms. Moran, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported she and staff met with all the Human Services Advisory Committees in order to gain a better understanding of their various constituents' needs. Based on that information the Personnel Committee has decided to recommend the Town Manager proceed with advertising for a LCSW for the open Youth Services position to be in place before the beginning of the school year; advertise for the Director's position with some changes to the job classification including the ability to provide for direct adult and senior service work in addition to management responsibilities; and to reorganize and reorient the Department so that it operates more collaboratively.

Mr. Kochenburger reported the Ad Hoc Ordinance Development Committee which is reviewing the Parks and Recreation Fee Waivers has met to gather general information and will be meeting next on May 29, 2013.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATONS

5. E. Paterson re: Relocation of Main Accumulation Area

6. E. Paterson/M. Hart re: Spring Weekend

7. S. Herbst re: Appointments to Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors

X. FUTURE AGENDA

None offered.

Mr. Freudmann made a point of order questioning whether a motion to move into executive session was proper as the discussion would not be about the selection of a site but the method of encumbering the funds.

The Town Manager explained the opinion offered by bond counsel regarding the funds was discussed in open session early in the meeting and the intended discussion for the executive session was a discussion of specific properties.

The Mayor requested a motion to move into executive session.

Ms. Moran moved and Ms. Keane seconded to move into executive session to discuss the sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6)(D) and to include Town Manager Matt Hart, Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien and Natural Resources and Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman in the discussion.

Motion passed unanimously.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Sale or purchase of real property, in accordance with CGS§1-200(6) (D)

Present: Freudmann, Keane, Kochenburger, Moran, Paterson, Paulhus, Ryan, Schaefer, Shapiro

Also included: Town Manager Matt Hart, Town Attorney Dennis O'Brien and Natural Resources and Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Council reconvened in regular session. Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk